

MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Tuesday, March 10, 2009
Council Chambers
Municipal Building
93 Cottage Street
Bar Harbor, Maine

I. Call to Order at 2:08 PM

Members present: Patricia Samuel, Chair; Howdy Houghton; Matt Horton; Chris Fogg; Karen Baksa; Chris Vincenty; Barry Teater; John Kelly

Planning Director Anne Krieg was also present.

II. Excused Absences

Randy Sprague and Mark Hanscome were excused by a unanimous vote.

III. Minutes

No minutes were circulated.

IV. Staff Reports

Krieg introduced Perry Moore, landscape architect for Fernald Funeral Home on Eden Street. Perry reviewed the plan to extend a commercial district into the historic corridor to allow more uses at the funeral home site.

West Street Hotel

Krieg reviewed the plans for West Street. Height compliance was discussed. The role of the task force was discussed and whether there should be any involvement. Task force members commented that their role is to implement the comprehensive plan and thus they could make a recommendation as to whether this project meets the comprehensive plan. There was no action taken.

The Chair reminded the task force that they had previously acted on the opinion that the development should have affordable rents to allow or keep local retailers at the location, the whale museum would remain and there would be a public parking garage as part of the development.

V. Regular Business

The Chair reviewed her ideas for district standards in the downtown area.

The use table needs to be modified to allow multi family in the downtown residential district. Also the allowance of breweries and galleries and theater needs to be added to the downtown business district allowances. Other use changes discussed included cemeteries in the historic district, using state definitions for daycares and transient accommodations, adding greenhouses as allowable uses as well as food processing.

Outdoor storage was also noted as a topic for future discussion. Other uses needing definition and allowance included bakeries, funeral homes, upholstery shops, printing places. Parking issues also need to be discussed.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. Matters for Next Meetings

Transient accommodation definitions

Home occupation

V.III Confirm Date/Time/Location for Next Meeting

March 24, 2009 at 2:00 PM

It was noted that John Kelly would not be at the next meeting.

IX. Adjournment at 3:30 PM